

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and are subject to a restriction requirement. Specifically, the Examiner has required that Applicant elect between the inventions of:

- Group I: Claims 1-15, drawn to a frost cover; and
- Group II: Claims 16-20, drawn to a method for providing frost protection.

Applicant elects to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-15); without traverse. Claims 16-20 are being cancelled herein. However, Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of claims 16-20 in a timely filed divisional application.

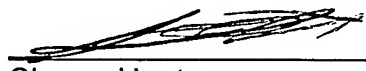
The Examiner has also required Applicant to identify the species of inventions that the Examiner considers to be patentably distinct and a listing of all claims readable thereon. The Examiner considers the patentably distinct species of inventions to be:

- A) The embodiment where the retaining mechanism is a drawstring;
- B) The embodiment where the retaining mechanism is an elastic band; and
- C) The embodiment where the retaining mechanism is a VELCRO®-type fastener.

In the event that no generic claim is held to be allowable, Applicant would select embodiment "B", wherein the retaining mechanism is an elastic band. The elected claims readable upon this species are 1-4, 7-9, 11, and 13-15.

Respectfully submitted,

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